DINNER TIME
SHIRO-SAN SAID HE'D EAT LATER.
HE WAS GLUED TO HIS COMPUTER.
THEN LET'S EAT WITHOUT HIM.
I WONDER IF HE'S MADE PROGRESS ON HIS NOVEL.
OH?
USA-KUN,
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR CHIN?
UH...
I... I HIT IT ON SOME-THING.

MAYUMI-SAN,
PLEASE DON'T SAY ANYTHING WEIRD.
IT WAS AN EMBAR-RASSING AND DIS-GRACEFUL SIGHT...
NOT EVEN I COULD DESCRIBE IT WITH WORDS.
SO I MADE A FLIP BOOK OF IT USING A VIDEO APP.
I HADN'T DRAWN IN A WHILE.
MAYUMI-SAN, DID YOUR SCHOOL NOT OFFER ETHICS CLASSES?
MAYUMI-SAN, YOU'RE QUITE THE ARTIST.

YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO DO ANYTHING EXPLICIT.

THIS IS YOUR PUNISHMENT...

NO, WAIT!

I JUST GAVE IN TO TEMPTATION!

I PROMISE IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!

YOU JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL RIT-CHAN GRADUATES.

OH... ACTUALLY, NO.

SENPAI, YOU'RE STAYING AT THE KAWAI COMPLEX EVEN AFTER YOU GRADUATE, RIGHT?

Y-YEAH.

OH... IS THAT WHAT YOU'VE DECIDED?

YEAH...

THEN YOU'D BETTER GET CASTRATED.

SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR MINI FUN STICK.

IT'S NOT MINI.

PETITE, THEN.

COULD YOU STOP TREATING ME LIKE SOME KIND OF BRUTE?!
I'M HAPPY THE WAY THINGS ARE,
AND IT'LL NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN!
HOW COULD I TRY AGAIN?
I'M DEPRESSED BECAUSE I GOT AHEAD OF MYSELF AND SHE REJECTED ME,
BUT I THINK I MIGHT HAVE SCARED HER.
I NEED TO RECOVER SOMEHOW.
YOU, TOO, SENPAI!
YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE ME!
O...
OKAY.
RRRR
IT'S MY MOM.
I'M GOING TO MY ROOM.
THANKS FOR DINNER.
USA-KUN,
YOU'RE HAPPY RIT-CHAN IS STAY-ING?

I MEAN.
IT'S BETTER THAN BEING SEPARATED BY COLLEGE.
ARE YOU SURE?
YOU'LL BE (UNOFFICIALLY) DATING FOREVER.
IT'S AS HALF-ASSED AS THE SIZE OF YOUR FUN STICK.
YOU'LL NEVER BE CONNECTED PHYSICALLY, THOUGH (LOL).
IT'S NOT FOR EVER!
UGH...
BUT WE'RE CONNECTED EMOTIONALLY.
YOU DIDN'T NEED TO MENTION MY FUN STICK.
IT'S UNNATURAL FOR YOU TO RESTRAIN YOURSELF.
YOU'RE MAKING ME PUKE UP PSEUDO-PLATONIC BARF.
OH, MY.
OF COURSE I WANT TO STAY THE COURSE!
SENPAI'S FINALLY PAYING ATTENTION TO ME, THOUGH.
I'M AFRAID OF ANY CHANGE.
USA-KUN, YOU HANDLE CHANGE BETTER THAN ANYONE.
HOW TIMID OF YOU.

THAT'S NOT TRUE.
ARE YOU SURE?
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO ADAPT, EVEN WHEN BEING PUSHED AROUND BY UNIQUE PEOPLE.
INSTEAD OF REJECTING IT, YOU FACE IT HEAD ON,
AND MAKE IT PART OF YOUR DAILY LIFE.
...YOU'VE DEALT WITH MAYUMI-CHAN'S DOMINEERING ATTITUDE
AND SAYAKA-CHAN'S BARE FACE.
AND SHIRO-KUN'S MASOCHISM.
ARE THOSE REALLY COMPARABLE?
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE FREAK SHOW.
HAVING YOUR DAILY LIFE DISRUPTED IS A GREAT KIND OF "CHANGE."
PAT PAT
SINCE MOVING INTO THE KAWAI COMPLEX...
WELL... I GAVE UP ON MAYUMI-SAN BECAUSE I ASSUMED THAT'S THE KIND OF PERSON SHE IS.
AND I'M STILL TRAUMATIZED BY SAYAKA-SAN'S BARE FACE.
HEY!
HEY!

ARE YOU SURE?
I THINK IT'S PRETTY APPLIC-ABLE.
BUT I HAVE A FEELING MY... FREAK SHOW POWERS WON'T HELP ME WITH MY CURRENT SITUATION.
I'M NOT SURE I UNDER-STAND,
YOU DON'T REALIZE YOU'RE DOING IT BECAUSE IT COMES SO EASILY TO YOU.
HEE HEE
...
THERE'S NOTHING THAT DOESN'T CHANGE.
IF YOU THINK IT DOESN'T, IT'S SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T REALIZED IT DOES.
SORRY I'M LATE.
CHANGE DOESN'T WAIT FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T NOTICED IT.
TRYING TOO HARD TO PREVENT IT WILL JUST MAKE YOU STAGNATE.

DID YOU MAKE SOME PROGRESS ON YOUR MASTER-PIECE?
TSK
YOU'RE ACTING LIKE YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH HELL.
YOU WERE TYPING SO MUCH.
WELL...
UGH...
I'LL PUT SOMETHING TOGETHER FOR YOU.
OH, MY. YOU LOOK HAGGARD.
DIN-NER...
YOU'RE MAKING ME ITCHY!
STOP! STOP THAT!
UGH, THAT'S IRRI-TATING!
BUT I CAN'T REACH THE SPOT THAT ITCHES.
IT'S LIKE I HAVE ALL THE BACK SCRATCH-ERS IN THE WORLD...
MAYBE I CAN'T DO IT.
MUTTER
...

WHAT?
THIS IS HOW YOU ACT AFTER SAYING THOSE SELF-IMPORTANT THINGS THE OTHER DAY?
HOW DARE YOU SAY YOU'RE QUITTING!
SLAP
NOBODY SAID THAT.
IF ANYONE DID, IT WAS MAYUMI-SAN.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT...
LISTEN UP!
YOU EVEN FOOLED ME INTO THINKING YOU'RE AN AUTHOR (LOL).
HE'S NOT FOOLING ANYONE!
WRITE LIKE YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!
THEN THAT BOOK IIJIMA SENT ME...

...CAN BE BURNED!
WHY?!
TO CHEER YOU UP!
I'M NOT THE SLIGHTEST BIT INTERESTED IN IT!
YOU STILL WANT TO KEEP WRITING?
HEE HEE HEE
I CAN'T TELL IF SHE'S TRYING TO ENCOURAGE HIM OR GET IN HIS WAY.
SINCE MAYUMI-SAN IS BEING SO INTERESTING,
I'LL SUPPORT YOU.
SHIRO-KUN, YOU ENJOY VIDEOS OF FAILED FIRST KISSES DON'T YOU?
WHEN DID YOU COPY THAT?!
WOW, WHAT IS THIS?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOUR FIRST ATTEMPT AT A KISS TURNED OUT THIS WAY.
MY HEART WON'T STOP POUNDING AT THE GOLDEN RATIO OF YOUTH, PAIN, AND EMBARRASSMENT REPRESENTED HERE.

SIGH...
WHAT-EVER...
IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES TO CHEER YOU UP.
ACTU-ALLY,
IT IS NICE.
I'M GOING TO STRUGGLE A WHILE LONGER.

THANKS.

I'M FEELING ANNOYED, SO I'M GONNA GO BURN THAT BOOK.
MA-YUMI-SAN!

MUTTER-MUTTER-MUTTER
WHOA!
SHIRO-SAN?!
DID YOU BURN YOUR-SELF OUT STAYING UP ALL NIGHT AGAIN?
I STILL COULDN'T FIND THE CORE.
THE WORDS COME, BUT I CAN'T FIND IT.
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU HAVEN'T BEEN SLEEP-ING MUCH RECENTLY.
IT'S LIKE I'M GETTING FARTHER AND FARTHER AWAY...
YAWN...
HUH?
MUTTER MUTTER MUTTER

YOU'VE BEEN STUCK FOR TOO LONG.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TAKE A BREAK.
A BREAK...
I KNOW, IT'S STILL FALL! LET'S HOLD OUR TRADITIONAL BOARD GAME TOURNAMENT.
GREAT IDEA!
RIGHT?
...
ANYWAY, I NEED TO EAT BREAK-FAST.
I'M GOING TO GO WASH MY FACE FIRST.
AW, MAN.

WRITING A BOOK SEEMS HARD.
I'M OFF.
I KNEW...
...I COULDN'T DO IT.
FWOOSH
THIS IS BAD. IT'S ALREADY WINTER.
BAD?
IT'S FREEZ-ING!

EARLIER I WAS TALKING TO SHIRO-SAN ABOUT HOLDING OUR CUSTOMARY FALL BOARD GAME TOURNAMENT.
OH, RIGHT...
LAST YEAR WE PLAYED JENGA AND CHESS.
WELL, EVEN IF WE CAN'T THIS YEAR,
THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT YEAR.
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU WERE TERRIBLE AT BOTH.
MAYUMI-SAN WAS LAST PLACE.
WHACK

NEXT YEAR...
WILL BE THE SAME.
JUST LIKE THIS YEAR.

JUST LIKE...
USA-KUN,
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT'S FOR THE BEST?
...THIS YEAR?
WHAT?
!
I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY!
SERIOUSLY, I'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN! IT'S OKAY!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
WHAT!
NO, I...?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT!
OH, BUT...

THAT IS PART OF IT, BUT
UH,
WELL...
GULP
I...
I'M GOING TO SCHOOL!
I-THINK I'M THE CLASS OFFICER TODAY.
...
AND I'M MEETING WITH MY STUDY GROUP TODAY!
HUH?
USA-SEN-PAI?
ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M FINE...
OF COURSE I'M NOT FINE!
AM I BEING TESTED ?!
SEN-PAI?!
I...

SIGN: LIBRARY

?
ARE THEY THAT DIFFER-ENT?
GRIMACE

WE'VE ALREADY DECIDED WE'LL START OFFICIALLY DATING IN THE FUTURE!
HUH.
IN THE FUTURE, HUH?
GLARE
SO I CAN INTERFERE ALL I WANT RIGHT NOW, RIGHT?
JOKING, JOKING.
BUT...
WHY'D YOU GO WITH SOMETHING SO HALF-BAKED, THOUGH?
YOU'LL BE SEPA-RATED COME SPRING.
WE WON'T!

WE...
WE'LL BE TOGETHER AT THE KAWAI COMPLEX.
WE WON'T
EVEN IF IT'S UNOFFICIAL.
AS LONG AS WE STAY LIKE THIS
SO..
I'M LEAVING.
SEN-PAI?!
WAIT!
STOP TEASING HIM.
LISA-KUN'S SO FUNNY, I CAN'T HELP IT.

IT PISSES ME OFF WHEN HE TELLS ME WHAT TO DO.

I'LL TALK TO HIM.

SAYAKA-CHAN, YOU SHOULD TALK TO YOUR FATHER FIRST.

UGH!

I'M GOING TO LIVE BY MYSELF IN THE CITY.

BUT I DEFINITELY WON'T FOLLOW IN HIS FOOT-STEPS.

HMMM.

I SHOULD PROBABLY START ACTUALLY TRYING TO FIND A JOB.

I'VE BEEN GOING TO INFORMATION SESSIONS, THOUGH.

CLATTER

SENPAI, WAIT!

AND I SAID I'M NOT GOING HOME.

YOU'VE FINALLY GIVEN UP, MAYUMI-SAN.

I GUESS YOU'LL BE THE FIRST OF US TO LEAVE THE KAWAI COMPLEX, THEN.

IT'S THE COUNTRY LIFE. ♡

I NATU-RALLY EXCLUDED MYSELF!

スパーン!
WHAPOW
STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
HUH?
WHAT?
ARE THEY FIGHTING?
WHEN I START COLLEGE,
I'M...
...MOVING OUT OF THE KAWAI COMPLEX.
WHAT?!!

DIDN'T WE SAY WE'D KEEP THIS GOING?
I THINK THAT'S—
GLARE
WAIT, SENPAI!
WHY HAVE YOU SUDDENLY CHANGED YOUR MIND?

UM... SO,
RIT-CHAN WILL BE THE FIRST TO LEAVE?
OH, NO.
??!

CHANGE...
I'LL PROB-ABLY...
...LEAVE FIRST.
WHAT?
...DOESN'T WAIT.